

MEDICAL SCHOOL, OSAKA UNIVERSITY

33 Joanchō, Kitaku, Osaka, Japan.

April, 1, 1952

Prof. Lederberg  
Department of Genetics,  
University of Wisconsin,  
Madison 6, Wisconsin, U. S. A.

Dear Professor Lederberg:-

A few days ago, I received your letter of the 25th, March, and reprints of your valuable papers. Please accept my sincere thanks for your kindness in permitting my selfish requests.

The strains which Dr. Demerec sent me were:

Y40, BMV<sup>r</sup> (requires biotine and methionine, resistant to bacteriophage T<sub>1</sub>)

Y70, TLB<sub>1</sub>Lac<sup>r</sup> (requires threonine, leucine, thiamine, lactose-negative)

Then we want to obtain the original K-12 as well as some mutant strains other than the above ones.

We are investigating the relation of tryptophane - niacin processes in bacteria, especially in E. coli, by using adaptive enzyme methods which have been discovered by Suda and Stanier independently. Keeping pace with the method, the multiplication method of bacteria is being used. At present, we have a mutant strain of E. coli which requires niacin in the development. As far as our experiments go, tryptophane, kynurenine, 3-OHkynurenine, 3-OHanthranilic acid and quinolinic acid seem to substitute for niacin in this strain. But, genetical analyses of the strain are very difficult, and we want to get similar mutants in K-12 or other Japanese strains which are able to cross with K-12. This is our principal aim to request your strains.

Very sincerely yours,

*J. Kitawa*